



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

The Honorable Bobby C. Scott
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Scott:

Thank you for your October 17, 2018 letter concerning the Virginia Natural Gas Southside Connector Distribution Pipeline (SCDP) project and its potential impact on Hampton Roads ship repair activities. Hampton Roads remains a key location for Navy ship maintenance and repair.

On October 23, 2018, I contacted the Commonwealth of Virginia's State Corporation Commission, Division of Utility and Rail and Safety (DURS). DURS is the responsible regulatory body for intrastate gas pipelines. It is worth noting that DURS has adopted parts 191, 192, 193, 195, and 199 of Title 49 of Code of Federal Regulations to serve as Virginia's minimum gas pipeline safety standard.

DURS was knowledgeable of the development and ongoing construction of SCDP. They have the authority to readily inspect the project, which they have done, and told me they would continue to do so. The Navy's primary source of comfort in regards to safety in this case is the state's regulatory body. We remain confident that the Commonwealth's assessment of the design and construction of SCDP alleviates the risks posed in your letter.

Again, I appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts on this issue. A similar letter has been sent to Representative McEachin. If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Spencer", is written over a horizontal line.

Richard V. Spencer



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The Honorable A. Donald McEachin
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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